

users and the parents, not the Government. The amendment the chairman and I offer requires large on-line service providers to offer their subscribers filtering software and systems to stop objectionable materials from reaching their computer screens. I am supportive of voluntary industry efforts to come together and provide Internet users with one-click-away information resources on how to protect children when they go on line. Senator CAMPBELL and I joined Vice President Gore at the White House last week to hear about this one-click-away amendment. Our amendment helps promote the use of filtering technologies. It is better than Government censorship. It is a fall-back provision, if the companies do not do it themselves.

NOTE FROM SENATOR SASSER

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wonder if my distinguished friend from Utah will indulge me. I ask unanimous consent for 1 minute to read a note that I just received from our former colleague, Senator Sasser.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, many of us served here with Jim Sasser, the very distinguished former chairman of the Budget Committee, now our Ambassador to China at a very difficult time.

We have seen the photographs of Ambassador Sasser under siege in the Chinese Embassy. I faxed him a note the other day, saying how proud I was, and I mentioned the comments of many Senators saying how proud they were, of his grace under fire and the fact that he would not leave the American Embassy that is under siege. When there were Embassy staff there, in the true and best tradition of the State Department and the Senate and the Marine Corps and everything else, he said he would stay until it was safe. So I faxed him this note.

This morning I got back this note from him, and I will read it for my colleagues. It is handwritten. It says:

Dear Pat: My sincere thanks for your wonderful note. Please tell all my former colleagues that Mary and I are well and safe. Things have stabilized after a turbulent few days. Last night I got a good night's sleep in a real bed. All the best, Jim.

I just wanted everybody to hear that. I thank my friend from Utah.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. I am glad my friend from Vermont read that letter. I visited with Senator Sasser a couple of years ago over there. He is doing a very good job in China.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this Hatch-Leahy amendment, which is aimed at limiting the negative impact violence and indecent material on the Internet have on children.

As I noted last evening, this amendment does not regulate the content. Instead, it encourages the larger Internet service providers, the ISPs, if you will, to provide, either for free or at a fee not exceeding the cost to the service providers, filtering technologies that will empower parents to limit or block the access of minors to unsuitable materials on the Internet. We simply cannot ignore the fact that the Internet has the ability to expose children to violent, sexually explicit, and other inappropriate materials with no limits.

A recent Time/CNN poll found that 75 percent of teenagers from 13 to 17 believe the Internet is partly responsible for the crimes that occurred in Littleton, CO, at Columbine High School. The amendment respects the first amendment of the Constitution by not regulating content but ensures that parents will have the adequate technological tools to control access of their children to unsuitable material on the Internet.

I honestly believe that the Internet service providers that do not already provide filtering software to their subscribers will do so voluntarily. They will know it is in their best interests, and I believe the market will demand it.

A recent survey reported in the New York Times yesterday found that almost a third of on-line American households with children use blocking software.

In a study by the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, 60 percent of parents said they disagreed with the statement that the Internet was a safe place for their children. According to yesterday's New York Times, after the shootings in Colorado, the demand for filtering technologies has dramatically increased. This indicates that parents are taking an active role in safeguarding their children on the Internet. That is what this amendment is all about—using technology to empower parents.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment, and I yield the floor and hope we can go to a vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 335. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 100, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 113 Leg.]

YEAS—100

Abraham	Bennett	Brownback
Akaka	Biden	Bryan
Allard	Bingaman	Bunning
Ashcroft	Bond	Burns
Baucus	Boxer	Byrd
Bayh	Breaux	Campbell

Chafee	Hatch	Murray
Cleland	Helms	Nickles
Cochran	Hollings	Reed
Collins	Hutchinson	Reid
Conrad	Hutchison	Robb
Coverdell	Inhofe	Roberts
Craig	Inouye	Rockefeller
Crapo	Jeffords	Roth
Daschle	Johnson	Santorum
DeWine	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Dodd	Kerrey	Schumer
Domenici	Kerry	Sessions
Dorgan	Kohl	Shelby
Durbin	Kyl	Smith (NH)
Edwards	Landrieu	Smith (OR)
Enzi	Lautenberg	Snowe
Feingold	Leahy	Specter
Feinstein	Levin	Stevens
Fitzgerald	Lieberman	Thomas
Frist	Lincoln	Thompson
Gorton	Lott	Thurmond
Graham	Lugar	Torricelli
Gramm	Mack	Voinovich
Grams	McCain	Warner
Grassley	McConnell	Wellstone
Gregg	Mikulski	Wyden
Hagel	Moynihan	
Harkin	Murkowski	

The amendment (No. 335) was agreed to.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. HATCH. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANTORUM). Under the previous order, the Senator from Nevada, Mr. BRYAN, is recognized for up to 12 minutes for a morning business statement.

The Senator from Nevada.

DANGERS OF NUCLEAR WASTE TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, next Sunday and Monday, NBC is scheduled to air a miniseries entitled "Atomic Train." The plot of this movie includes a runaway train carrying nuclear weapons and high-level nuclear waste causing a massive accident and catastrophe in Denver.

The movie is obviously fiction. Let me just tell you how the network initially described the scenario:

A runaway train carrying armed nuclear weapons and deadly nuclear waste suddenly careens out of control down the Rocky Mountains.

All of this made the nuclear power industry very nervous, because although the scenario is fictional, much of what is depicted, in part, is a scenario that is entirely possible, given the proposed legislation I will describe that this Congress is considering.

Earlier this week, just days before this was to air, all of a sudden NBC changes the story line of the television miniseries, and now we have:

A runaway train carrying a Russian atomic weapon and hazardous materials, suddenly careening out of control.

All reference to high-level nuclear waste is dropped. The Nuclear Energy Institute, which is the lobbying arm of the atomic energy lobby, was forced to go into high gear. They sent out what they called an "Info Wire." They were very concerned. They say, in effect:

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The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

NEI, in consultation with industry communicators and representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy and the American Association of Railroads, has adopted a containment strategy for the upcoming movie. We do not want to do anything to provide additional publicity for this movie prior to the airing. The containment strategy is not a passive one, in that it envisions an aggressive effort prior to the broadcast.

It is the belief of this Senator that indeed it was a very aggressive effort, and the Nuclear Energy Institute put pressure on the network to drop all references to dangerous high-level nuclear waste. The last thing this industry wants the American people to understand is that legislation which has been supported in previous Congresses, and in this Congress, would result in the shipment of 77,000 metric tons of high-level nuclear waste within a mile or less of a total population of 50 million residing in 43 States.

The blue lines depict rails, and indeed there is a transportation corridor going through the State of Colorado, as well as others.

So why did NBC do an "el foldo"? NBC is owned by General Electric and, surprise, General Electric has a nuclear division, and one of its senior officers is a member of the board of directors of NEI.

I acknowledge it is a fictional scenario. But what is very real is that in point of fact the proposal is to transport high-level nuclear waste through all these rail corridors that are depicted on this map. That is not fictional. That is real.

It is, in fact, real that high-level nuclear waste is deadly, as NBC first described it. In fact, it is deadly for tens of thousands of years. In point of fact, as we know, every year there are thousands of train accidents in America. A runaway train is not a fictional scenario. That is something that occurs, sadly, from time to time. It is not a fictional scenario for a train and an automobile or a truck to collide at an at-grade crossing. That occurred tragically earlier this year in Illinois. It is not fictional for trains to be derailed.

The last thing this industry wants the American people to know and to understand is that, indeed, the shipment of high-level nuclear waste, proposed to be sent to a temporary—allegedly temporary—storage area in my own State, at the Nevada Test Site, is a scenario that would involve the transshipment of 77,000 metric tons of high-level nuclear waste, with all of the risks that are inherent therein.

What is even more outrageous is that it is totally unnecessary. The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board tells us it is unnecessary. The Department of Energy has indicated it is unnecessary. The President has indicated he would veto such legislation. All the risks depicted in this scenario with high-level nuclear wastes could be a reality if there was a tragic train accident and, indeed, the canisters were compromised and high-level nuclear waste was scattered along the route.

I think this is a very dangerous proposal. I think the fact the network would cave in is equally dangerous, because the American people have a right to know what is being proposed. In Nevada, we understand the risk. Sadly, there are hundreds of millions of Americans in this country who are not familiar with the nuclear industry's proposal to make their backyards the corridor by which high-level nuclear waste is to pass.

I must say, with tongue in cheek, if this is to be the standard, one might contemplate that the cruise line industry might have put pressure upon the producers of "Titanic": Please do not make any reference to the fact that the ship is sinking. This may be bad for business. Or the producers of "Planet Of The Apes" might have been subjected to pressure from PETA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, saying: Look, we object to the way in which these apes are being treated in the film; please make changes. Or if some of the advocates of my own State approached the producers of "Casino" and said: Look, we don't want you to make any references to "Casino" in this story line; please delete that.

In my judgment, the circumstantial evidence is powerful here. The description I have given, namely of deadly nuclear waste, was the network's own description just days ago. The NEI goes into a full court press, what they call a containment strategy—what we all know is damage control—and, miraculously, days before this miniseries is scheduled to air, the story line is changed and all references to deadly nuclear waste are deleted.

I hope the American people will not be misled, that they will understand the risks that affect them and their neighborhoods. Mr. President, 43 different States are affected in this scenario. This map I have here depicts essentially the States. Because, by their nature, highway corridors and rail corridors connect the major metropolitan communities of our country, this high-level nuclear waste would in fact go through major cities in America. That fact is largely unknown.

Last year, I had occasion to travel with my senior colleague to the two communities of Denver and St. Louis, and to share with those communities the risks that are involved. Most people in the community did not have any understanding that this scenario is not fictional and far-fetched but, indeed, it is contemplated that those shipments will occur.

I regret NBC felt it was necessary to respond to the pressure of the nuclear power industry. Having been involved in this battle for the last 17 years, I am not unmindful of what a powerful force they are, not only in Washington but around the country. They have every right to advocate their point of view. As to their concern that somehow their industry would be exposed for what it is, a high-risk industry that threatens the health and safety of many Ameri-

cans with this ill-conceived and unnecessary plan to ship nuclear waste to a temporary nuclear waste facility in my own State, at least this movie would have made the public aware that high-level nuclear waste is dangerous, to use the description NBC initially gave; that it was indeed going to pass through major cities such as Denver; and that indeed the health and safety of citizens of those communities and many others across the country could be compromised.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and the remainder of my time.

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The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 328

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate resumes consideration of the HOLLINGS amendment, No. 328, for the remaining 2 hours of debate, which is to be equally divided in the usual form. Who yields time?

The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I yield such time as I may consume.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I thank the distinguished Chair.

Mr. President, this amendment is nothing more than reinstituting the family hour or the family viewing period. We had it during the seventies, but we set it aside, just like the distinguished Senator from Nevada was talking about with respect to censoring and making sure these producers and broadcasters don't interfere with the creative impulses of a writer or a producer in Hollywood. But when it comes to the bottom line, they change that around. That is what we have, and it is very, very difficult to make an overwhelming case.

We are again facing the same stonewalling that we viewed Sunday on "Meet the Press," when the representative of the Motion Picture Association, who has been doing this for 30-some years, said he did not know the effect of TV violence on children and asked for another study. We pointed out, of course, that is the way we started with Senator Pastore, back in 1969, 30 years ago, and that is when we had the Surgeon General's study. It has become worse and worse and worse over the years.

Again this morning, in the Washington Post, an article says: "Movie Mogul Defends Hollywood." Mr. Edgar Bronfman states:

Violence "is not an entertainment problem". . . .

Mr. President, all we have to do is go to the May 3 issue of Newsweek. I ask unanimous consent to print the article, "Loitering on the Dark Side" in the RECORD.